

within a day if they wished. Drugs and violence have no place in our schools alongside math and history.

To address this problem, the Safe and Affordable Schools Act authorizes \$50 million for fiscal year 1998 school choice pilot programs. These moneys may be used to develop, establish, and operate programs to protect children who have been victims of, or witnesses to, violence in our elementary and secondary schools. To encourage local safety measures, the act gives priority to programs providing for suspension, delay, or restriction of driving privileges for minors found to be using drugs.

Mr. President, poor kids in this country should have the same right to attend a safe school as their more well-off counterparts. That is why school choice programs are essential. This bill provides funding for pilot programs and also for broader school choice vouchers to give parents in our less affluent areas a chance to send their children to good schools.

Unfortunately, Mr. President, too many kids who graduate from high school find the doors to higher education closed to them by sky-high costs. Public college and university tuition alone has risen 234 percent over the last 15 years. This has put too tight a squeeze on students and their parents as they seek the opportunities only higher education can provide in our country.

To make higher education more affordable for students in college and for parents saving for their children's education, this legislation provides a number of rational, cost-effective tax incentives. To begin with, Mr. President, this bill establishes the Bob Dole education investment account. Parents would be able to contribute \$1,000 per year to this account, and would be eligible to establish an account for each child. The savings will be significant. If a parent puts aside \$1,000 at the time a child is born, and contributes \$1,000 every year until the child is 18, the investment account would contain \$34,000 to pay college costs.

And this legislation offers further help to parents and students. It excludes from taxation educational assistance provided by employers. It also excludes any prepaid higher education disbursement from the State. In addition, the bill would make student loan interest deductible, up to a maximum of \$2,500 per year. Finally, the bill would exclude from gross income any moneys received through Federal work study programs.

These provisions will make higher education more affordable. They will keep the doors of opportunity open for all Americans. Combined with school choice measures, they will go a long way toward establishing the equality of opportunity for which our country always has been known.

I urge my colleagues to support this worthwhile legislation.●

RETIREMENT OF PROCTOR JONES

●Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the Senate, with its long hours and demanding schedule is not generally known for the long tenure of its Members' staff. Proctor Jones is an exception to that rule. Proctor has served the Senate for more than 35 years. He has spent 27 of those years working for the Committee on Appropriations, outlasting seven committee chairmen. Nobody knows the ins and outs of the appropriations process, better than Proctor Jones.

The energy and water appropriations bill just won't be the same without Senator JOHNSTON leading the Democratic members of the subcommittee and Proctor behind the scenes crafting the bill. It is not a coincidence that the energy and water appropriations bill is usually one of the first to be passed by Congress. Proctor's experience on appropriations, combined with Senator JOHNSTON's bargaining skill made them a formidable pair. They will be sorely missed on the Appropriations Committee. I commend Proctor on his long and dedicated service to the Senate and wish him the best of luck.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVE AND LORRAINE GOREN ON BEING NAMED 1997 DOVER CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

●Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Steve and Lorraine Goren, coowners of Farnham's clothing store in Dover, on being named the 1997 Citizens of the Year by the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce. As a former small businessman myself, I commend their accomplishments.

Farnham's clothing store has been a Dover establishment since 1855. For years, Steve and Lorraine have been involved in Dover's growth in a number of ways.

Steve Goren is a member of the Dover Parking Commission and a trustee at the Dover Children's Home. He is a former member of the Dover Industrial Development Authority, a former director of Great Bay Bank Shares, and was on the board of Southeast Bank. In addition, both Gorens are active in the downtown merchants group.

Lorraine Goren has represented Temple Israel on the board of Dover Cooperative Ministries for years, served as treasurer of the Wentworth-Douglass Hospital Auxiliary and rallied Dover merchants for support during the American Cancer Society's annual dafodil sales. She has also served the Dover Chamber of Commerce as a member of the Cochecho Arts Festival committee and the Apple Harvest Day committee.

Both Steve and Lorraine have dedicated their time, talent and energy to serving the residents of Dover in an exemplary way. The Goren's outstanding community commitment is important to the future and prosperity of New

Hampshire's communities. Congratulations to Steve and Lorraine for this distinguished recognition. I am honored to represent them in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE RUTH FAIRFAX

●Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to talk about Beatrice Ruth Fairfax, a constituent of mine who died on January 14, 1997, at the age of 84, after a lifetime of making a difference in the lives of those she touched. She will be sorely missed by her family, friends, and community.

Upon her graduation from Hyde Park High School, Beatrice Fairfax worked as a writer and became involved in many civil rights and labor union causes. She met her husband, Bob Fairfax through their involvement in cultural arts activities with the Works Progress Administration [WPA]. They married in 1935 and eventually settled in the Altgeld-Murray public housing development as one of Altgeld's first interracial families. The Fairfaxes worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for public housing residents. They founded and managed the community's first newspaper, the Altgeld Beacon, while working as beat reporters for the Chicago Defender Newspaper. They also established numerous Boy Scout troops throughout the Chicago Housing Authority [CHA], and founded the Jackson Raiders, an award winning drum and bugle corps. In keeping with Mrs. Fairfax's philosophy, "Before a community can make social sense, it has to make economic sense," the Fairfaxes also participated in the establishment of one of the country's first and largest black owned food co-op stores, which was owned by 300 black families and patronized by thousands of public housing residents. In addition, the Fairfaxes were two of the original plaintiffs in *Gautreaux versus Chicago Housing Authority*, a landmark case which resulted in the end of racially discriminatory practices of the CHA.

After her retirement from the Illinois Department of Labor, Mrs. Fairfax continued to be active in community affairs and maintained affiliations with the American Association of Retired Persons, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of Chicago, Chicago Parent Teacher Association, Citizen Utility Board, Chicago Urban League, Chicago Sinai Congregation, Jewish Council for the Elderly, Illinois Public Action Council, and the Friends of the Chicago Children's Choir, to name a few. In addition to her many substantial accomplishments, on a personal note, I must say that Bea Fairfax was one of the kindest and most generous people I have known. She didn't just talk the talk, but walked the walk. Her life was truly dedicated to improving the lives of others. No one knows that more than her